

Amended
A1
1. (AMENDED) A nonwoven fabric comprising a continuous web consisting essentially of substantially endless thermoplastic melt extruded filaments having a denier of 0.5 to 3, wherein said filaments are hydroentangled in the form of interengaged packed loops, with the filaments being free of breaking, wrapping and knotting, and wherein said hydroentangled web has a cross machine elongation value in excess of 100%.

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A2
11. (AMENDED) A nonwoven fabric as in claim 1 wherein said continuous web of substantially endless thermoplastic melt extruded filaments comprises a plurality of layers of said web of substantially endless continuous filaments.

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A3
13. (AMENDED) A non-woven fabric comprising a continuous web consisting essentially of substantially endless melt extruded thermoplastic filaments having a denier of about 1.0 to 2.5, wherein said filaments are hydroentangled in the form of interengaged packed loops, with the filaments being substantially free of breaking, wrapping, and knotting; said fabric having a basis weight of between about 20 and 450 gm/m², having a machine direction elongation value of at least 75% and a cross direction value of at least 100%, having a fiber entanglement frequency of at least 10.0, a fiber entanglement completeness value of at least 1.00, a fiber interlock value of at least 15.

Amended
[Please add the following new claim:]

Amended
45. A nonwoven fabric comprising a continuous web of substantially endless thermoplastic melt extruded filaments having a denier of 0.5 to 3, wherein said filaments are directly hydroentangled in the form of interengaged packed loops, with the filaments